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SEP 20 2012

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,443,956

Issued: September 3, 2002

Application No. 09/668,400

Filed: September 22, 2000

For: VERTEBRAL DRILL BIT AND  
INSERTER

: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

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This letter is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed August 31, 2012.

Any reply to the instant letter **MUST** be submitted within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from mail date of this decision. Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) **are not** permitted. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c)." This is not a final agency decision.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.33(b), "[a]mendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(ii) of this part, filed in the application must be signed by: (1) A patent practitioner of record appointed in compliance with § 1.32(b); (2) A patent practitioner not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34; (3) An assignee as provided for under § 3.71(b) of this chapter; or (4) All of the applicants (§ 1.41(b)) for patent, unless there is an assignee of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with § 3.71 of this chapter."

The instant petition does not comply with 37 CFR 1.33(b)(3). Any request for reconsideration must be accompanied by a statement pursuant to 37 CFR 3.73(b) as well as evidence of prior assignment prior to a decision on the merits of the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c).

Any request for reconsideration must be accompanied by a properly executed petition.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300

By hand: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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Mail Stop Petition  
Randolph Building  
Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3205.

*/ALESIA M. BROWN/*

Alesia M. Brown  
Attorney Advisor  
Office of Petitions